

been made to the westward of Fort Cumberland under warrant granted before the sixth of October, seventeen hundred and seventy-four, the quantity expressed in which has been exceeded above one-fourth, and the whole caution money due on the certificates thereof hath been paid to the treasurer, under the *act allowing a longer time to compound on old certificates, and making further regulations respecting the sale of vacant lands, on or before the first of November, seventeen hundred and eighty-two, or under the †act allowing a longer time to compound on old certificates, on or before the first of July, seventeen hundred and eighty-three, and the proprietors of the said certificates cannot in such cases obtain patents, to the great injury of the said proprietors, and the injury of the state in delaying the settlement and improvement of the lands mentioned in the certificates aforesaid.

*April 1782
ch. 38.

†Nov. 1782,
ch. 5.

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That in all cases where it shall appear to the chancellor, by an examination in the manner prescribed by the first aforesaid act, that the certificate of any survey which hath exceeded the quantity expressed in the warrant more than one-fourth, and which hath been compounded for as aforesaid, was bona fide the property of some citizen of this state, or of some one of the United States, at the time of passing the act, entitled, *an act to appropriate certain lands to the use of the officers and soldiers of this state, and for the sale of vacant lands, and that the proprietor of such certificate is, in equity and justice, and agreeably to the rules and practice of the examiner-general under the old government in passing certificates in which the quantity of land expressed in the warrant is exceeded, and of issuing grants on such certificates, entitled to a grant for the same, then and in such case the chancellor may order a grant to issue for the same; but if it shall appear to the chancellor, by an examination in the manner as aforesaid, that any such certificate, at the time of passing the said last aforesaid act, was not bona fide the property of some citizen of this state, or some one of the United States, or that the proprietor of such certificate is not justly and equitably entitled to a grant for the same, in such case he shall endorse on the said certificate his order or decree that the said certificate is void and of no effect; and the intendant, or any other person who shall be authorized to draw on the treasury, shall give the proprietor of such a certificate an order on the treasury of the western shore for the caution or composition money which hath been paid for such certificate, which order shall be discharged out of any money not specially appropriated, and the treasurer shall thereupon retain the said certificate as a voucher.

Proprietors
entitled to
a grant, &c.

*Nov. 1781,
ch. 20.